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The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has announced a new grant program that will award up to \$2 million in cooperative agreements for new state and local water resource agencies participating in the National Groundwater Monitoring Network (NGWMN). The funds will be used to provide groundwater data to the NGWMN, a cooperative network between the USGS and the Federal Advisory Committee on Water Information's (ACWI) Subcommittee on Ground Water (SOGW) that helps manage and monitor national groundwater.

Under the agreements, new data providers are required to identify and classify groundwater sites that are currently being monitored, and to establish web services that will connect these new data sources to the existing NGWMN portal. The awardees are then required to draft a summary of how they implemented the connection process.

Agencies interested in applying for a grant under the cooperative agreements must submit their applications before December 14, 2016. The NGWMN will sponsor a meeting during the National Ground Water Association's Groundwater Week (December 6-8, 2016) in Las Vegas to update the SOGW and data providers on the status of the NGWMN.

Sources: Advisory Committee on Water Information, National Ground Water Association, United States Geological Survey